



Agenda Item Number: 2006-4-8A

BERNALILLO COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date: April 25, 2006

Department: Commissioner Michael Brasher

Staff Contact: Robert Doucette
Commission Assistant

TITLE: Gasoline Excise Tax

ACTION: Motion to approve administrative resolution AR -2006 Urging Governor Bill Richardson and the State Legislators to consider lowering the Gas Excise Tax.

SUMMARY:

The State of New Mexico levies a Gasoline Excise Tax on each gallon of gasoline sold in New Mexico. The current rate of tax is .17 cents per gallon. Although the distributors are responsible for the tax, it is passed on to the consumer at the pump. The current average price per gallon across the state is \$2.85 per gallon, an all-time high. At the beginning of the legislative session in January 2006, it was estimated that, as a result of the high cost of gas and the taxes paid by consumers, the state had an extra half billion dollars in unexpected revenue to be used for state operating expenses. The Board of County Commissioners, the governing body of the County of Bernalillo, urges Governor Bill Richardson and the State Legislators to consider lowering the oil and gas severance tax on production by a reasonable amount and relieve the taxpayers of this extra burden. It is difficult financially for many residents and a reduction in this tax would ease some of the financial strain that many families are forced to deal with.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Administrative Resolution AR -2006